

REMARKS

Claim 1-108 are pending. The title, specification, and claims 5 and 11 are amended. A marked-up version showing the changes made by the present amendment is attached hereto as **"Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."**

Claims 5 and 11 are amended for further clarity in response to the comments made in the Office Action.

The disclosure has been amended to update the status of the parent application as well as to amend the title, as required in the Office Action.

Claims 1-5, 8-41, 43-47, 50-67 and 72 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by, or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Narui et al. Claims 6, 7, 42, 48, 49, 68-71 and 73-108 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Narui et al. and Fazan et al. Favorable reconsideration of these rejections are earnestly solicited.

Narui et al. has filed in the United States on January 13, 1997. The present application claims priority of Japanese application Hei 8-189424, filed July 18, 1996. A verified English language translation of the priority application is submitted herewith. It is respectfully submitted that submission of the verified English translation of the priority application overcomes Narui et al. as prior art.

For at least the forgoing reasons, the claimed invention distinguishes over the cited art and defines patentable subject matter. Favorably reconsideration is honestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deemed that any further action by applicants would be desirable to


U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10 050,169

place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' or undersigned attorney.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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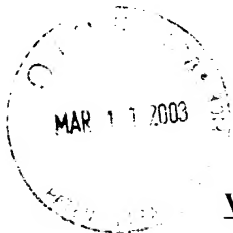


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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: Version with markings to show changes made
Verified English Translation of Japanese Application Hei 8-189424

Q: FLOATERS SGA 970607B Amendment 03 10 03



VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE 10/050,169

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the first line of the specification to read as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 5 and 11 as follows:

5. (Amended) The semiconductor memory device according to claim 4, wherein said silicon nitride layer is patterned [after] to have a same planar shape as the opposing electrode.

11. (Amended) The semiconductor memory device according to claim 10, wherein said lower part of the insulator laminate includes a silicon nitride layer at an uppermost level, which is patterned [after] to have a same planar shape as the opposing electrode.